



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Supervising Ranger Jim Serpa
(949) 496-5290, #3 or (949) 433-9257
jserpa@parks.ca.gov

Bill Brooks (949) 496-5224

llbrooks@cox.net

Vicki Wiker, Park Interpreter (949) 496-2704
vwiker@parks.ca.gov

Dohney State Beach Turns 75 - Celebration on June 24

DANA POINT - Dohney State Beach invites the public to celebrate its 75th birthday with a children's surfing competition, volleyball demonstrations, surf music, and more.

The celebration will take place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 24. Park offices are located at 25300 Dana Point Harbor Drive.

Doheny's anniversary celebration will showcase both its history and recreational uses. Exhibits include a vintage camping area displaying beach camping from the 1940's to 1970's. Restored surf vehicles such as Woodies, as well as vintage surfboards, will be on display for the public to enjoy. Lifeguarding, marine and terrestrial animal life, birds and plant life will be highlighted at various venues throughout the park. The Doheny Longboard Surfing Association will host its annual Menehune surfing contest for boys and girls ages six to 16. Fishing exhibits, surf music, historical displays, volleyball demonstrations and a Doheny birthday cake contest will round out the celebration. The event is funded by the Doheny State Beach Interpretive Association.

On May 31, 1931, Edward Doheny donated 41 acres of ocean front property to the State of California to be used "perpetually for public use." This land became Doheny State Beach Park, California's first state beach. Subsequent land acquisitions from the Santa Fe Railroad, University of California Regents, and Union Oil Company provided Doheny State Beach with an additional 21 acres. Doheny State Beach Park was reclassified to Doheny State Beach on July 1, 1963.

People were camping at Doheny even before it became a state park. Today, Doheny's 122 camping spaces are the most popular in the state. In the busy summer season, for every one person that makes a reservation, approximately 400 are turned away. The Orange County Register named Doheny the number one camping spot in all of California for 12 years straight.

Doheny's gentle breakers make it an ideal place for surfing. Doheny was a focal point of
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the surfing counterculture in the 1950's and 1960's when its name was used in the song Surfer Joe by the Surfaris and the Beach Boys' hit "Surfin' U.S.A." Many surfers name Doheny as the place they first learned to surf.

Since 1989, three thousand gallons of chilled salt water have kept dozens of marine animals on public display in Doheny's aquarium – the only aquarium in the state park system.

Doheny also hosts a number of interpretive and community events annually, including the Doheny Blues Music Festival, Doheny Grunion Night and the Halloween Haunted Campground.

More information is available online at www.dohenystatebeach.org

Doheny 75th Schedule of Events

7:00 a.m.	Menehune Surf Contest
9:00	Opening Ceremonies
9:30	Bird Talk, and Spot
10:00	Butterfly and Native Garden Walk and Talk
10:30	Fish Feeding and Talk
11:00	Fishing Demo
11:30	Cake Contest
12:00 p.m.	Knobby Knees (Until 1:00)
12:30	Whale Walk and Talk
1:00	Whale Songs, Alumni Gathering and Photo
1:30	Native American Talk
2:00	Knobby Knees (Until 3:00), Volleyball Clinic
2:30	Butterfly and Native Garden Walk and Talk
3:00	Fish Feeding and Talk
3:30	Smores Demonstration - Ken Watson – Campfire songs
4:00	Time Capsule

Open all day:

1. Park History	2. Ranger History
3. Lifeguard History	4. Surf History
5. Vintage surfboards etc	6. Vintage Camping Trailers
7. Park Wildlife	8. Fishing
9. Grunion	10. Native Americans
11. S.C. Historical Association	12. Water Quality
13. Aquarium/Visitor Center	14. Plant Gardens
15. Surfer Temporary Tattoos	16. DSBIA Booth
17. Doheny Employees Booth (oral histories)	18. Woodies
19. Plein Aire Art	20. Photos Exhibits (Tom, Rachel)
21. Doheny Mansion	22. Sharks
23. Geology	24. Whales
25. Popcorn Stand	26. Food, Beer and Wine Court
(Schedule and booths subject to change.)	

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